

the shore. Soon after, drenched and half-frozen, they reached Mrs. Marchmont's boat-house.

Miss Martell's powers of endurance were nearly exhausted; and when the lantern, held aloft, revealed Harcourt's pale face, when she knew that it was his arms that received her in her helplessness, and she heard him murmur, "I now believe that there is a good and merciful God, and I thank Him," in the strong reaction of feeling she became unconscious.

(To be continued.)

EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN TEA-TABLES.

I have often thought that if American women could once see a Scotch or English tea-table, it would give them a lesson they would never forget. And there would be a great saving in money, time and labour ever afterward, when inviting their friends for an afternoon visit. Let me describe a tea-table at which I was once an honoured guest, the party having been made expressly for me. I was spending a few days at Newport-on-the-Tar, opposite Dundee, Scotland, at the house of Mrs. Margaret D. Parker, President of the British Woman's Temperance Society. The invitation came from a Mrs. Smythe, a friend of hers in the village.

We went about three o'clock in the afternoon. The lady met us at the gate, and as I was an invalid, kindly assisted me up the winding walk that led from terrace to terrace, till we reached the house. She took us right into the dining-room, as there was a fire there, and the after-noon was chilly, it being the latter part of September. We had a pleasant chatty time till about 5.30. Then the maid came in to lay the table. She spread the damask cloth, white as snow and polished like satin, laid out the napkins and set out the china, and brought the cream and sugar, the plate of butter and a loaf of bread. Mrs. Smythe spread the bread, first cutting off the crust to make a smooth slice, just as our mothers used to do for us children when we wanted "a piece" between meals. Then she cut each slice as thin as possible, and piled them on a plate till she thought she had enough; the butter and the loaf were left upon the table, with the knife, that more could be spread and cut if needed. The maid then brought in a part of a boiled ham, a small jar of plum preserves, a dish of buns, and a pot of tea—and that was all. But I assure you I never relished a meal more than I did that simple one. Everything was delicious, and there was plenty of each. And we all arose from the table without the fear of dyspepsia before our minds.

"I suppose," said Mrs. Parker, as we went home, "it looked very odd to you to see such a simple tea-table, accustomed as you are to the luxurious, overlaid tea-tables of America?"

"It did look odd," said I, "but I liked it, and it has brought to me a lesson I shall remember—that to have a good time with friends it is not necessary to break your back all the forenoon over the baking table, or burn your cheeks to a blister over a hot oven."

THE FIFTY-FIRST PSALM.

Since the publication of Gray's "Elegy," the fifty-first Psalm of David has been translated into all the languages of the civilized world. New versions of it, in the English, French and German tongues, have been multiplied beyond former precedent. So soon as the language of a Pagan tribe has been reduced to writing, it has been made the vehicle for carrying this Psalm to the Pagan mind. When the "Elegy" is translated, it parts with many of its original beauties; but this Psalm retains its glow and power when it is transferred to even the rudest language of the rudest men. It is the favourite Psalm of slaves and freemen, the poor and the rich, the ignorant and the learned. Some of the most beautiful passages in modern literature have been suggested by it, some of the choicest hymns in our devotional poetry are founded on it. Its words have been repeated by men as they were dying on the battle-field, in prisons, on the scaffold, and also by the kings of the earth as they were breathing out their life in their palaces, and the ministers of religion as they were bidding farewell to the churches. It was the sacred poem of the Jews; it has been the still more sacred poem of Christians; it promises to be more and more the fresh utterance of good men in all tribes and all times.

In what manner, now, had David been educated for composing—and he had no leisure for spending eight years in composing—the Psalm which was to touch the sensibilities of the race? We first hear of him as pursuing the occupation ordinarily assigned to "females, or to slaves, or to the despised of the family." He is represented to us as carrying in hand a switch or wand, and carrying around his neck a scrip or a wallet. We read of him as in a conflict with the lion and the bear, as fighting with the giant, as a busy warrior; a fugitive and outlaw, a statesman, a king. He lived in a dark and barbarous age—not only without the aid of universities and libraries, but without the stimulus of literary companions or a refined public sentiment. Still the poem he indited will live, when the poem written by a master of the sciences and of the arts will have been forgotten, and the Psalm will speak to the heart of millions, while the beautiful "Elegy" will be speaking to a select few, and the Psalm will be the more highly prized, as the sentiment of man becomes the more choice and pure.

On what theory shall we explain this difference between the ancient and the modern poem? Various theories have been invented, but that one which most easily explains the disparity is that the modern poet wrote under the influences of his multifarious learning; but the ancient poet was elevated above his own ingenuity by communion with the Divine mind, and his powers were spiritualized by the inspiration of God, more than they could have been by the largest human erudition.—Prof. Park.

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FOREIGN BODIES IN NOSTRILS.

The curious disposition of children to insert foreign bodies, as grains of coffee, corn, peas, pebbles, etc., up the nostrils is too well known to be more than alluded to. If the body is soft, it absorbs moisture from adjacent parts, becomes swollen, and more difficult to remove. If the body is hard, the irritation and inflammation set up by it in contiguous parts in a short time materially increase the difficulties of removal. Hence the sooner these substances are removed, the easier it is to do so. If the foreign body is up the nostril, the child should be made to take a full inspiration ("a full breath"), then closing the other nostril with the finger, and the mouth with the hand, the air of the lungs, in escaping through the nostril closed to a degree by the foreign body, assisted by a sharp blow from the palm of the hand to the back, will often expel the substance. If it will not escape in this way, and it is near the opening of the nostril, compression by the fingers, just above, will prevent it getting further up, and it can be hooked out with the bent end of a wire or bodkin. Should these measures not remove the foreign body, the child should at once be taken to a surgeon.

ELECTRIC SPARK PEN.

A new invention in the art of engraving probably suggested by the familiar electric pen has been brought out in Paris. A copper plate is prepared as for engraving, and over this is secured in some convenient manner, a thin sheet of paper. The plate is then connected with one pole of a Ruhmkorff coil. The pen (presumably a simple insulated metallic rod or pencil with a fine point) is also connected by means of an insulated wire with the coil. Then, if the point of the pen (which is bare) is touched to the paper, a minute hole is burned in it by the spark that leaps from the point of the pen to the plate. By using the pen as a pencil a drawing may be made on the paper in a series of fine holes precisely after the manner of the electric pen, except that in one case the holes are mechanically punched out and in the other case are burned out. When the drawing is finished the paper may be used as a stencil. A printer's roller carrying an oily ink is passed over the paper, and the ink penetrating the paper through the holes reproduces the drawing in ink on the copper plate. The paper may then be removed and the plate submitted to an acid bath when the surface will be cut away, except where the ink resists the acid, and those parts will be in relief and thus make an engraved plate ready for the printing-press. By this ingenious device, the artist drawing upon the paper with the spark-giving pen performs two operations at once, drawing the picture and engraving the plate at the same time.

TOO FOND OF MUSIC.

Captain Tyson, the Arctic explorer, once espied an ook-jook (seal) who had come up through a hole in the ice to breathe. The explorer beckoned to a companion to bring a gun as quietly as possible and shoot the creature. Meanwhile, the captain whistled a plaintive tune as musically as he could. The ookjook was so charmed by the pleasant sound that he lingered and listened until the gun came and he was killed.

Now, it is said that all seals are fond of sweet sounds, whether made by instruments, sung, whistled, or, sometimes, merely spoken, and that they will keep still and listen, giving a hunter time to come within shooting distance.

But perhaps there is a slight mistake, and the seal is only watching for a good chance, while he grumbles to himself, something like this:

"Pshaw! Only let me catch that troublesome fellow, and I'll soon put an end to his noise!"—St. Nicholas for April.

NOT DESERVING OF PITY.

Beggared spendthrifts, to whom money has no exchange value but pleasure.

Persons who will persist in dying by inches with dyspepsia and liver diseases, when Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and Pleasant Purgative Pellets are unfailing remedies for these maladies.

Parents who spare the rod and ruin the child. Fast young men and women are generally spoiled children to begin with.

People who suffer from catarrh, when Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy is a safe, reliable, and well-tested remedy for this loathsome disease.

People who marry for money, and find too late that the golden glitter is all moonshine.

Women who suffer death every day of their lives, when Dr. Pierce's Favourite Prescription will effectually remove those painful weaknesses and impart a healthful tone and strength to the whole system.

People who live beyond their means and find that style and pride, like everything else in this world, unless placed upon a secure foundation, are subject to the law of gravitation.

Invalids who do more toward fostering disease, by living and sleeping in the low, unventilated rooms of the ordinary house, than the best medicines can accomplish toward recovery, when at a moderate expense they can secure all the hygienic and sanitary advantages of the Invalids' Hotel at Buffalo, N. Y. Every physician knows how much recovery depends upon good nursing and the hygienic conditions of the sick room. Chronic diseases are especially subject to these conditions.

I HAVE never been able to discover that a man is at all the worse for being attacked. One foolish line of his own does him more harm than the ablest pamphlets against him by other people.—Macaulay.

MEN are habitually striving after place and power, as if there was happiness in being great and distinguished. If we read history or scrutinize the lives we see in our own day, we will conclude that the chief misery of the world is lodged in those who have reached public elevation.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

Of the 27,000,000 of inhabitants of Italy, 14,000,000 can neither read nor write.

Dr. CUYLER's church, Lafayette Avenue, Presbyterian, Brooklyn, N.Y., has 1,681 members.

The Russian Synod of the Greek church is preparing for missionary work in Japan, and the work is to be carried on on a large scale.

SOME scandal has been created in English religious circles by the advertisement of an incumbency for sale of which the Prince of Wales is patron.

Dr. HOWARD CROSBY of New York has been appointed Lyman Beecher lecturer in Yale Theological Seminary for next year, and it is understood that he accepts the appointment.

The American Episcopal Church reports 48 dioceses, 13 missionary districts, 63 bishops, 3,330 clergy, 312,718 communicants, 28,365 Sunday-school teachers, with 265,555 pupils.

Mr. FINNEY, a London dentist, claims to have found a filled tooth in the jaw of an Egyptian mummy. Dentistry was further advanced 4,000 years ago in Egypt than is supposed.

DIPHTHERIA continues to increase in many provinces in Russia. In the district of Meergorod it has attacked twelve per centum of the population since 1875, with fatal results in one and a half per centum of the cases.

It is proposed to commence the formation of a Presbyterian Church in Cambridge, which has hitherto been left in the hands of other denominations. The subject under the consideration of the London Presbytery.

CIVILIZATION makes slow progress in Russia outside the great cities. The Moscow "Gazette" says that the widow Agrafene Ignatieff of the village of Wratshevo was buried alive as a witch by the inhabitants of the village a short time ago.

THE American Presbyterian Board of Home Missions was in debt to the amount of \$90,000 on the 1st of February, and it needs \$45,000 more before the end of its fiscal year. The secretaries make a special appeal for contributions.

Dr. NEWMAN has never thought it necessary, because he is a Catholic, to swear by the Pope's baker and candlestick-maker, and he is far too much of an English gentleman to like or to imitate the manners and fashions that sometimes find favour in Rome.—Truth.

THE members of the Congregational Council have voted against the installation of the Rev. Dr. James M. Whiton, of the "famous" class of 1853, as pastor of the First Congregational Church in Newark, N.J., on account of the views expressed in his pamphlet entitled, "Is Eternal Punishment Endless?"

SINCE the death of Rev. Dr. Ingram of Unst, Shetland, the oldest ministers of Scotch Free Church are Rev. A. Keith, D.D., who was ordained in 1816, and Rev. Thomas Hislop, who was ordained in the same year. Dr. Keith is the sole survivor of the ministers who subscribed the circular calling the memorable convocation in 1842.

The "Church Missionary Intelligencer" for March gives particulars of the murder of Mr. Penrose of the Victoria Nyanza Mission. It seems that he unwisely left the Arab caravans under whose escort he was travelling, and while passing through the uninhabited country called Mgunda Mkhali, was attacked by robbers and killed, with his porters from the coast.

A ROME despatch says Cardinal Nina, Papal Secretary of State, has received an important dispatch from Bismarck. The difficulties preventing an understanding with Germany are probably ended. Several ecclesiastics who separated from the Church because of the proclamation of infallibility have secretly submitted to the Pope, and more are expected to follow their example.

RECENT intelligence seems to confirm the theory of a submarine volcano off the coast of Florida, by whose recent eruptions countless numbers of fish have not only been killed, but the business of market fishing, upon which so many of the coast dwellers depend for a livelihood, put stop to altogether. The drift of pumice stone along the shore of the Gulf would seem to be almost conclusive evidence in itself. That these eruptions are intermittent, as in other known volcanoes, is proven by the data pertaining to similar occurrences 25 years ago in the same locality.

THE Duke of Connaught and his bride have sailed for a cruise in the Mediterranean. According to the marriage treaty the Duke settles upon the Duchess \$7,500 a year; provision is also made for an annuity of \$30,000 in case Her Royal Highness is left a widow; and her dowry is fixed at \$75,000. The Queen has lived to see seven of her children married, previous Royal weddings having been as follows: The Princess Royal in 1858; Princess Alice, 1863; Prince of Wales, 1863; Princess Helena, 1866; Princess Louise, 1871; the Duke of Edinburgh, 1874; and the Duke of Connaught in 1879.

THE reports of the progress of the war in South Africa are somewhat conflicting. Oham, King Cetewayo's brother, with his eldest son and many of his warriors, surrendered unconditionally to the British on the 4th of March. Oham is supposed to be an aspirant for Cetewayo's throne. Colonel Ransom's force at Ekowe is still in danger, and his provisions are running short. Advices from Cape Town say that a majority of the accounts estimate the number of Oham's followers who surrendered with him at six hundred. He said that two thousand or three thousand more men would follow if troops were sent to support them. All that is known of Cetewayo's movements is derived from reports by natives, which are very conflicting. The Cape "Times" says that Cetewayo is preparing to attack Ekowe, or to invade the colony if the river is low enough. Other reports say that he has great difficulty in assembling his men.